

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES

Mr. BURNS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Armed Services be authorized to meet at 10 a.m. on Thursday, August 1, 1996, in open session, to receive an update on United States participation in implementation force mission in Bosnia.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, SCIENCE, AND TRANSPORTATION

Mr. BURNS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation be allowed to meet during the Thursday, August 1, 1996, session of the Senate for the purpose of conducting a hearing on aviation security challenges.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Mr. BURNS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources be granted permission to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, August 1, 1996, for purposes of conducting a full committee hearing which is scheduled to begin at 2 p.m. The purpose of this oversight hearing is to receive testimony on the implementation of section 2001 of Public Law 104-19, the Emergency Timber Salvage Amendment.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT AND PUBLIC WORKS

Mr. BURNS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Environment and Public Works be granted permission to meet Thursday, August 1, immediately following the first vote in The President's Room, S-216, The Capitol, to consider the nominations of Nils J. Diaz and Edward McGaffigan, Jr., each nominated by the President to be a Member of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission and a committee resolution on a GSA public building proposal.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

Mr. BURNS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Foreign Relations be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, August 1, 1996, at 10 a.m.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

Mr. BURNS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on the Judiciary be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, August 1, 1996, at 10 a.m. to hold an executive business meeting.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE

Mr. BURNS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Select Committee on Intelligence be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, August 1, 1996 at 9:30 a.m. to hold an open hearing on Intelligence Matters.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT AND INVESTIGATIONS

Mr. BURNS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations of the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources be granted permission to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, August 1, 1996 for purposes of conducting a Subcommittee hearing which is scheduled to begin at 9:00 a.m. The purpose of the oversight hearing is to consider the propriety of a commercial lease by the Bureau of Land Management at Lake Havasu, AZ, including its consistency with the Federal Land Policy and Management Act and Department of the Interior land use policies.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

COMMEMORATING THE BRAVERY OF THE 168th ENGINEER COMBAT BATTALION

• Ms. SNOWE. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to the valor and courage of the 168th Engineer Combat Battalion, which celebrates the unveiling of its commemorative monument at Fort Devens, MA, later this month. During World War II, the 168th Engineer Combat Battalion was composed entirely of New Englanders, many of them residents of the State I have the good fortune to represent in this body: the great State of Maine. This brave group of soldiers defended freedom and democracy from the will of tyranny in the darkest days of World War II and the Vietnam conflict. As they reunite to remember their success and pay homage to their fallen comrades, I'd like to take a moment today to remember the unit's heroism.

Mr. President, any retelling of the pivotal events of the Second World War in Europe must include the deeds of the 168th. They were there with General Patton in July 1944 when the Allies landed on the beaches of Normandy as part of the D-day Invasion. For 10 hard but glorious months thereafter, the 168th provided the American ground forces in Europe with invaluable logistic support and an iron will that was crucial in turning back the ruthless advance of the Nazis across Europe.

Perhaps no single mission depicts the heroism, bravery, and grit of the 168th more clearly than its performance in the Ardennes offensive, also known as the Battle of the Bulge. When the forces of Hitler launched their des-

perate, last-ditch offensive into the heart of the Allied line during the winter of 1944, the 168th displayed the resiliency and courage for which it has come to be known. In hopes of fracturing the Allied line into its American and British components, the Nazi Army focused all of its lethal energy on breaking through the Allied line in Belgium. However, in doing so, the Nazis ran into the 168th, and the 168th stood fast. With their defiant stand at St. Vith, Belgium, the 168th was able to slow the Nazi assault and then provide the larger American force with the logistical support necessary to repel the Nazi war machine once and for all.

In remaining at St. Vith, the 168th endured the loss of half its personnel to casualty or Nazi apprehension. Yet, with the loss of every comrade, the depleted 168th exhibited even firmer resolve to drive the Nazis back across the line. They did so for each other, and they did so for America. But most of all, they refused to succumb to the Nazis because at that moment, the cause of freedom depended upon them. For its valor in battle and efficiency in duty, the 168th was deservedly awarded the Distinguished Unit Citation by the U.S. Army. The 168th was also awarded the Belgian Croix de Guerre, which was given to foreign forces by the Belgian Government for the defense of its nation during World War II.

As if the heroics of the 168th in World War II were not enough, it also served with distinction during the Vietnam conflict, 20 years later. Faced with the daunting task of establishing logistical lines of support in the harrowing jungles of Southeast Asia, the 168th again performed its tasks masterfully under heavy fire. For its repeated acts of bravery, the 168th received the Valorous Unit Citation and the Meritorious Unit Citation, and in doing so, reaffirmed its status as an elite unit of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

Mr. President, as the remaining members of the 168th gather to unveil their monument at Fort Devens, I think it is appropriate that we all remember the intrepid nature displayed again and again by the members of the 168th when they were most needed. Whether they were ordered to forge roadways and cross rivers in the snowy countryside of Western Europe, or devise ways to destroy the vast tunnel systems underneath the steamy jungles of Southeast Asia, the 168th has performed its duties with honor and distinction. It is due to the heroism and sacrifice of people like the members of the 168th Engineer Combat Battalion that Americans enjoy the fruits of freedom today, and for that, we all owe them a deep and heartfelt debt of gratitude.

In honor of the contributions made by the 168th in the defense of freedom, I ask that the declarations honoring the 168th Engineer Combat Battalion made by the Governors of Maine and Massachusetts, as well as the Corps of Engineers poem be placed in the

RECORD in their entirety to commemorate the unveiling of the 168th Engineer Combat Battalion later this month.

The material follows:

PROCLAMATION—STATE OF MAINE

Whereas, the 168th Engineer Combat Battalion was activated in 1943, consisting of a large number of New England residents, many from Maine and Massachusetts; and

Whereas, since 1943, the 168th Engineer Combat Battalion has served with distinction in both World War II and the Vietnam War, earning five distinguished battle honors; and

Whereas, during the Battle of the Bulge, the 168th Engineer Combat Battalion held its position at St. Vith, Belgium from December 16 through December 23, 1944, and stopped the German thrust through the Ardennes; and

Whereas, following the Battle of the Bulge, the 168th Engineer Combat Battalion was awarded the Distinguished Unit Citation for extraordinary heroism against an armed enemy, and the Belgian Croix de Guerre for outstanding gallantry, heroic action, and bravery in the face of enemy action; and

Whereas, during the Vietnam War, the 168th Engineer Combat Battalion again served with distinction and was awarded the Valorous Unit Citation for heroic combat action on or after August 3, 1963, the Meritorious Unit Citation for outstanding service during a period of combat, and the Republic of Vietnam Civil Award for meritorious service and outstanding accomplishments over and above the call of duty; and

Whereas, it is appropriate that all Maine citizens recognize and honor the outstanding dedication, sacrifice, and tradition of the 168th Engineer Combat Battalion,

Now, therefore, I, Angus S. King, Jr., Governor of the State of Maine, do hereby proclaim the week of December 16–23, 1995 as the 168th Engineer Combat Battalion Days of Honor, throughout the State of Maine, and urge all citizens to recognize the many accomplishments of the 168th Engineer Combat Battalion.

PROCLAMATION—COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

Whereas, the 168th Engineer Combat Battalion was activated in 1943, consisting of a large number of New England residents, many from Maine and Massachusetts; and

Whereas, since 1943, the 168th Engineer Combat Battalion has served with distinction in both World War II and the Vietnam War, earning five distinguished battle honors; and

Whereas, during the Battle of the Bulge, the 168th Engineer Combat Battalion held its position at St. Vith, Belgium from December 16 through December 23, 1944, and stopped the German thrust through the Ardennes; and

Whereas, following the Battle of the Bulge, the 168th Engineer Combat Battalion was awarded the Distinguished Unit Citation for extraordinary heroism against an armed enemy, and the Belgian Croix de Guerre for outstanding gallantry, heroic action, and bravery in the face of enemy action; and

Whereas, during the Vietnam War, the 168th Engineer Combat Battalion again served with distinction and was awarded the Valorous Unit Citation for heroic combat action on or after August 3, 1963, the Meritorious Unit Citation for outstanding service during a period of combat, and the Republic of Vietnam Civil Award for meritorious service and outstanding accomplishments over and above the call of duty; and

Whereas, 1994 marks the fiftieth anniversary of the 168th Engineer Combat Battalion's distinguished service during the Battle of the Bulge; and

Whereas, it is appropriate that all Massachusetts citizens recognize and honor the outstanding dedication, sacrifice, and tradition of the 168th Engineer Combat Battalion;

Now, therefore, I, William F. Weld, Governor of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, do hereby proclaim December 16th through December 23rd, 1994, as the 168th Engineer Combat Battalion Days of Honor, and urge all the citizens of the Commonwealth to take cognizance of this event and participate fittingly in its observance.

CORPS OF ENGINEERS

(Author unknown, Korea, 1951)

They have a song about the Army, the Navy, and the Marines

They've got one for the Air Force, in fact the whole darn works, it seems

But they have never taken the trouble, though we have served them for years

To every write a poem, for the Corps of Engineers

We build the roads and airfields, their pipe lines and their camps

From underground munition dumps to concrete landing ramps

Railroads, dams and bridges, electric power lines

Canals, docks and harbors, even coal and iron mines

But the engineers aren't kicking, for when the Army is moving in:

We know it's just another place where we've already been

Before the Army got there, we had to break the ground

And build it all to suit their needs, solid safe, and sound

If the Army and Navy ever look on heavens scenes

They will find the streets guarded by the United States Marines

Who will guard the streets up there, we aren't disposed to say

But we offer this suggestion, if they look at a thing that way

When the Marines have taken over on the land that has no years

They will find it was designed by the Corps of Engineers.

RETIREMENT OF JOHN J. SHEEHAN

• Mr. DODD. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to an outstanding labor leader and an outstanding American. John J. "Jack" Sheehan is retiring after 29 years as legislative director of the Steelworkers of America and a total of 45 years of service to his union and all working people. He has served as an assistant to three presidents of the Steelworkers: Lloyd McBride, Lynn Williams, and George Becker.

During his 10 years in the Steelworkers' Washington office, Jack Sheehan has been at the forefront of some of the most important legislative battles in our history, including the creation of the Occupational Safety and Health Act [OSHA], the Mine Safety and Health Act, the Employee Retirement Income Security Act [ERISA], the Clean Air Act, the Clean Water Act, the Safe Drinking Water Act, and much more.

Jack Sheehan was born and raised in the Bronx. He was the son of Irish immigrants. His father drove a truck for

the New York City Sanitation Department. Jack learned early in his life about the daily struggles of working men and women who worked hard, who toiled through the Great Depression of the 1930s, and who fought and won World War II in the 1940s.

He saw the destructive effects of discrimination in our society and became a champion of the cause of civil rights and equal opportunity.

He saw how poverty deprived people of their dignity and became an advocate for social and economic development programs that promised millions of Americans a better life.

He knew how important a clean and healthy environment is to the lives and well-being of all Americans and became an environmental advocate.

He understood that the labor movement is a progressive force for social and economic change that could better the lives of millions of Americans.

Upon graduating from St. Joseph's College in 1951, he joined the administrative staff of the United Steelworkers of America. In 1952, he was appointed auditor under the secretary-treasurer's office and traveled extensively throughout the United States on behalf of the union. In 1959, Jack came to the Steelworkers' Washington, DC, legislative office and launched a career as a labor lobbyist that has been nothing short of spectacular.

Jack worked to ensure the passage of the Manpower Training and Development Act and the Area Redevelopment Act. He was one of the first labor leaders to stand with the environmental movement for clean air and clean water. He continues to serve as a board member of the Natural Resources Defense Council. He is also one of the founding members of the Consumer Federation of America.

Perhaps the single most important fight of Jack's long and distinguished career was the fight to save the lives and health of workers on the job. Jack committed himself totally to securing the passage of OSHA, despite strong business opposition and even some opposition within the ranks of the labor movement. OSHA recently marked its 25th anniversary. It has been estimated that since the passage of OSHA, more than 150,000 workers' lives have been saved because of this law. There probably would not have been an OSHA law passed in 1970 had it not been for the steadfast leadership and determination of Jack Sheehan.

ERISA was written in 1974 because thousands of American workers were losing their pensions and their right to retire with financial security when their employers went out of business. Jack worked tirelessly to see that Congress passed ERISA. America's working men and women are better off today because Jack Sheehan was here in the halls of Congress on their behalf.

Mr. President, Jack Sheehan's career is a tribute to his intelligence and determination. I know that my colleagues in the Senate join me in extending to Jack our very best wishes